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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/511,510	05/26/2005	Christopher L. West	ITC-330US	4197

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, VINH P

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2829

DATE MAILED: 12/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/511,510	Applicant(s) WEST, CHRISTOPHER L.	
	Examiner VINH P. NGUYEN	Art Unit 2829	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 16-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 10 and 16-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7-9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/15/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 2829

1. In response to Applicants' remarks and amendments filed on 09/25/06, Examiner considers Applicants' remarks, therefore groups I, III and IV including claims 1-10, 16-21 are examined.

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

3. Claims 1-10 and 19-21 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claims 1 and 19-21, it is unclear what "a first lock" and "a second lock" comprise of. Are they shown in any of drawings? Furthermore, "Apparatus" should be changed to "An apparatus"

In claims 2-9, "The cradle motion unit" should be "An apparatus".

In claim 4, it is unclear what "a plate" comprises of. Is it the same as "the attachment block (525)?"

In claims 7 and 8, "the load" has not been recited previously, therefore this term is indefinite. Is this "load" the same as "a test head"?

In claim 10, it is unclear what has been claimed since claim is in improper format.

Appropriate correction is required.

4. Claims 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 16, it is unclear what “an arm support block” and “guide block structure” comprise of. Are they shown in any of drawings? It appears that the limitation of “an arm support block Of rotating the load about a second axis orthogonal to the first axis” does not have support in the specification, therefore this limitation is indefinite.

The dependent claims not specifically address share the same indefiniteness as they depend from rejected base claims.

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-6,10 and 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Holt (Pat # 5,450,766).

As to claims 1-2 and 10, Holt disclose an test head manipulator having a support structure (11,10,27,32,40,26,29,30,180) which provides three degrees freedom (translation motion along a first axis, a first rotation motion about a second axis and a second rotation about a third axis) and first and second lock (104,124, or 114). It is noted that the support structure (10-11,27,32,40,26,29,30,180) is used for positioning a test head (151) (see column 4, lines 9-68).

As to claim 3, it appears that the first and second locks (104,124,114) are used for preventing the first and second rotational motions and the translation motion).

As to claim 4, the cradle assembly (180) of the support structure includes a first cradle side and a plate (130) coupled to the first cradle side for providing the translation motion and the first axis that is substantially parallel to the first cradle side.

As to claim 5, one of degrees of motion freedom of Holt inherently includes the second axis (y axis of the vertical motion) which is orthogonal to the first axis (x- axis of the horizontal motion).

As to claim 6, one of degrees of motion freedom of Holt inherently includes the third axis (z axis) which is orthogonal to the first axis and second axis.

As to claim 20-21, it appears that the device of Holt as recited previously perform those steps recited in the instant claims 20-21.

7. Claims 16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Holt (Pat # 5,450,766).

For the purpose of examination, "side arm 640" is read as arm support block.

As to claim 16, Stocum et al (Pat # 5,931,048) disclose a cradle assembly as shown in figure 6 having a sliding arm structure (610,612) between the side (602) of the cradle (600) and the load (test head "108"), an arm support block (604) at least a portion thereof being between the side (602) of the cradle and the load test head "108"), a guide block structure (608) at least a

portion thereof between the side of the cradle and the load (test head "108").

As to claim 18, the sliding arm structure (610,620) is attached to the side of the cradle, the arm support block (604) is adjacent to the sliding arm structure (610,620) and between the sliding arm structure and the guide block structure (608).

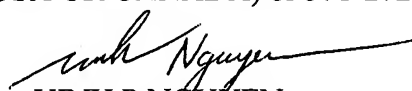
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VINH P. NGUYEN whose telephone number is 571-272-1964. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, HA T. NGUYEN can be reached on 571-272-1678. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

Art Unit: 2829

like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



VINH P NGUYEN

Primary Examiner

Art Unit 2829

11/29/06